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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/22/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [UP](#)

SUBJECT: MV FAINA: UKRAINIAN REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND
LIAISON PRESENCE ABOARD U.S. NAVAL VESSEL

Classified By: Ambassador for reasons 1.4 (b,d).

Summary

1.(C) In an October 22 diplomatic note, the Government of Ukraine requested U.S. assistance in supplying food, water, and fuel to the crew of t
Full Text of October 22 Diplomatic Note

2.(C) On October 22, MFA provided Embassy the following diplomatic note, and told us that a similar note has been delivered to our Embassy in N
Current Negotiations, Crew Welfare

3.(C) In separate meetings on October 21 and 22, National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) and MFA officials recapped the status of the Fair

4.(C) A British law firm XXXXXXXXXXXX has been retained by the owner of the Faina to act as intermediary, and has been designated as the sole r

5.(C) GoU representatives were sensitive to the possibility that the pirates might sensationalize the situation of the crew in order to increas
GoU Coordinating Process

6.(C) Our interlocutors clarified the coordinating process that has developed in the weeks since the Faina was seized. An interagency task forc
What if?

7.(C) When asked whether the GoU has a position on use of force in resolving the situation, both MFA and NSDC expressed guarded optimism that t
Russian Role

8.(C) The MFA indicated that their representative in Nairobi was coordinating with Russian representatives there for the release of the body of
Outreach to Crew Families

9.(C) Ukrainian media have focused recent Faina coverage on the anguished families of the crew and their calls for the GoU to pay the ransom to

10.(C) According to MFA, heavy GoU outreach to the families has softened their criticism, and helped them to understand how the GoU is approach
GOU Request for On-Board Liaison

11.(C) Ambassador and DATT have been approached by GOU interlocutors requesting we allow a Ukrainian military liaison to be placed on-board one
Comment/Action Request

12.(C) Embassy requests guidance on the US response to the GOU's diplomatic note. A coordinated interagency response to para 11 GOU request req